

A

## REVIEW

OF THE

## STATE

OF THE

## British Nation.

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 Saturday, April 2. 1709.
 

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## The INTRODUCTION Continued.

IN my last I did little more than tell my Readers what *I Expected from the World* in my further Prosecution of this Work, I am now still by way of Introduction to tell them *what the World may Expect of me*——. In the first I spoke rather Generally to

whole *Britain*, by whom this Paper is generally seen——, but in this part I Direct my self to *North Britain* in particular.

And really would the uneasy Clamours of some People in pursuing their Party Quarrels, give me leave to

go on in my own Road in this Paper, I am perswaded as far as it concerns *Scotland*, I might say what few can Expect to say of any Paper, viz. *That it should please every Body.*

Indeed the very Thought of such a thing at first Sight, might appear a little *Lunaick*, considering how hard the Men of this Age are to be pleased. Considering that the World was never of one Mind, since there was above one Man in it, and never will be again, as long as there are two; And yet, *Gentlemen*, upon your Reading this very Introduction, wherein the Design is at first laid down, I might Challenge any honest Man in *Scotland* to say in what he could be Offended.

To come, *in short then*, to my Design in this Paper, I shall first crave leave to tell you, it has of a long time been my Opinion, that *Scotland* has not only suffered for want of Improvement at Home, and Encrease of Trade Abroad, but has suffered in her general Character Abroad, for want of some Body to do her Justice among her Friends; Nor is this all, but she suffers something in her distance from, and want of Correspondence with the rest of the World, by having the Affairs of Court, City, State, Religion and Trade, Misrepresented to her.

This Paper then shall seriously apply it self to Remedy these several Evils, and if possible, shall set you Right in the Eyes of Strangers, and in your own Eyes too, and yet shall endeavour neither to Flatter or Deceive you.

It shall be my Study in this Paper, if not forced out of my way, as I Noted above, to Writ so, relating to *Scotland*, as that Protestant or Papist, *Williamite* or *Jacobite*, *Unioner* or *Anti-unioner*,

*Presbyterian* or *Episcopal*, if they have any Love for *Scotland*, any Sense of its Circumstances, any Concern for its Welfare, any pleasure in its Prosperity, any Desire of its Improvement, shall all like this Design; For no Man that Loves the Interest of *Scotland* and understands it, shall meet with any thing in this Paper design'd to make him Uneasy.

If there are any that Curse you, that wish *Scotland* poorer than it is, that aim at Disturbing your Peace, that Envy you a Resurrection from your worst Circumstances; It is confess'd, here is nothing design'd to Gratify such—— As I Talk to *England*, as well as to *Scotland*; So, when you are Maltreated, or Reproached among them, tho' they are my own Country Folk, I shall tell them, they want Manners, and Animadvert freely upon their Injustice——; And if the true Intent and Meaning of the Word *UNION* wants Explanation on either Parts Behaviour, I shall endeavour alwise to Act the Pacificator.

I think the Church of *Scotland*, and the Civil and Religious Properties of *Scotland* so well Established, That I take it to be none of my Task, to Defend them from any Thing Legal; No Breach can be made upon them, but it must be an Attack upon the Constitution, Revolution, Succession, the Laws, and the Union: And when THESE are fallen upon, my Duty will be, and every Honest Mans also, to Oppose with a better Weapon than the Pen, the Hands not the Tongue must Fight that Cause— and every true *Brittain*, I hope, will be ready to Defend it.

But if Scandals are raised, and the Mouth of Reproach opened against *Scotland*, your Country, your Religion, your People, your Constitution, or your Conduct——; As far as Truth will Vindicate you, this Paper and its Author is Listed in your Service, and



and will be your constant Defender —; *What tho he be a Volunteer*, and serves without Pay, your Approbation is his Commission —, and that you consent to be Vindicated by an Instrument to Contemptible, is his sufficient Satisfaction.

In this War indeed, some among you may take Offence at this Paper —, but they will be none but such as take Offence at the Settlement &c. —. And this will be the Authors Honour, That the Church, the Revolution, the Constitution, the Succession, &c. and this Paper, will have the same Enemies — and the Enmity proceed from the same Reason.

And yet even in this I shall likewise Add the Defensive Part, the Road of this Paper will be Trade, Improvement, Matters of State, History, Law, and War —. The Affairs of the Church will only occur, as the Enemies of the Church of Scotland draw them in by Force. The Church of Scotland, its Doctrine, Discipline, Worship, and Government, are Things settled; They need no Panegyric: They Court no Praise; So I have nothing to do, but when her Enemies Rave and Rage; When they BlaspHEME her Head and King; When they Trample her Character under their Feet, to Throw back their Dirt in their own Faces, and set them in their own Vile Figure in a full View to the World —; But this, as I said before, only when forc'd to it by Clamour, Slander, and the Insults of her Enemies —; If they contain their spleen, if they withhold their Malice, this Paper shall calmly and in Peace, pursue the true Ends of its first Design, viz. To Lead you by the Hand to the Knowledge of Improvements in Commerce, in Navigation, in Husbandry, and above all Gentlemen, in a Thing, I hope, you will learn to Value, and find Means to Obtain, and which at present, Scotland very much wants, I mean LIBERTY.

If Methods can be prescribed for your Prosperity, and Hints given you how you may bring it to pass; If you may be told how you may grow Rich, Wise, Fruitful, Flourishing, and Free —, the End of this Paper will be Answer'd; Yet I shall not put you upon Projects neither, I purpose to be no Bodies Undertaker, nor shall I make Bargains with you to Improve your Estates for you; To Better your Land, Enrich your Tenants, and Encrease your Rents, as has been a Modern Practice in some Parts of England; Most of which Undertaking Gentlemen, generally run away with the Money, and leave Things worse than they find them.

But I am for telling you, how you may do this Work your selves, and so to make the Profit your own; Indeed I must Article with you by way of Preliminary, just as the Confederates do now with the French, viz. That Two Things must go before your Prosperity, or else it is not to be Hoped for; And I am perswaded all Men will join with me in it, Scotland can never Improve, Grow Rich, Opulent, Great, Trade Flourish, Land Improve, Fishing, Shipping, and Merchandize Encrease, till she Arrive to Two Things, and these are PEACE and LIBERTY; I shall have Occasion perhaps to speak long and often to these Two Great Things, and Explain what I mean by them; At present, I believe, every Body understands them enough, to own that they are the Foundations of a Nations Wealth and Prosperity; And it would be a Task too big for me, to undertake to tell you, how you can be Happy, as is this World, without them.

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by Crying it upon the Streets, Volumes of the said Paper but by the Appointment of already pass'd may be bought, such Gentlemen, as have been and those to come will be pleased to Subscribe for the made up, and delivered to same; These are to give Notice, That it is to be had only at Mistress Andersons Shop on the North-side of the Street opposite to the Cross—; Observation in this Paper, as And all such Gentlemen, who may perhaps sometimes fall are Minded to be Encouragers of this Work, may great a Distance——; The Subscribe for the same at the Reader is desired to Note, said Mistress Andersons, they shall be plac'd as Errata or with Mr. Adam Blackadder in the subsequent Papers, that der at the Caledonia Coffee-house who lay them up in House, where the Conditions Volumes may Correct them of the said Subscription may with their Pen. be seen ——, and where the